

Bee City USA - Durham

Report on 2021

Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Dandelions are Bee-utiful Contest – As part of Durham’s Bee Friendly Program, an annual contest is held in April-May to encourage town residents to both recognize the importance of dandelions for honeybees and other pollinators. For 2021 there were 10 contest categories and 25 participants who submitted photos of dandelions happily growing in residential lawns and garden areas.



Wildflower habitats important for honeybees and other pollinators can be created/maintained on the edge of agricultural fields.



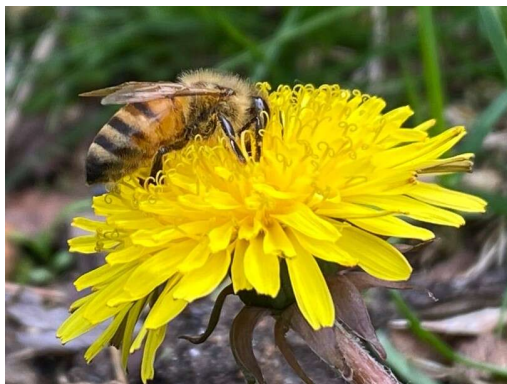
New Hampshire wildflowers that bloom in September are important for honeybees and other native pollinators. The four species growing together include goldenrod, smartweed, jewelweed, and purple loosestrife.

Education & Outreach

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farms, beekeeping and honey-tasting, and tours at the University of NH and Cooperative Extension research project locations. Memorial Day Parade – During this annual event, the Durham Agricultural Commission has a “mobile spring vegetable garden” (aka a float) in the parade. Displayed prominently is the BeeCity USA logo along with a beehive. Pollinator Friendly Yards – This PP Presentation briefly explains both the importance and benefits of making residential yards “pollinator-friendly.” The presentation is periodically shown to local school groups and during civic activities in the town. Seasonal Wildflower Field Trips – During June – October, weekly field trips were conducted at Emery Farm where participants could learn to identify both the species of wildflowers and types pollinators they attract. A fact sheet was also prepared that lists the seasonal wildflowers that are sought after by honeybees and native pollinators.



Dandelions are the first major source of pollen and nectar for honeybees and other native pollinators in the New Hampshire Seacoast Region.



Typically, honeybees in New Hampshire produce more honey from goldenrod than any other species of wildflowers.



Showy goldenrod wildflowers further decorated with monarch butterflies.

Policies & Practices

In the Town of Durham, the focus is on residential property and agricultural farmland.

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://extension.unh.edu/resource/wildflower-mixes-trial-new-hampshire>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

https://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource006628_Rep9500.pdf

<https://extension.unh.edu/resource/pollinator-plants-northern-new-england-gardens-fact-sheet>



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